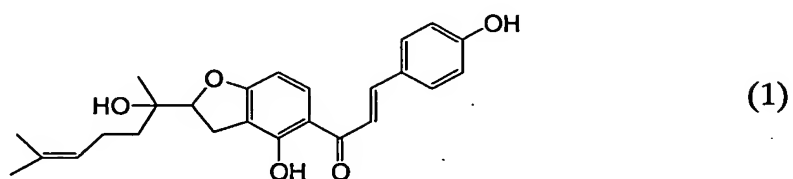


CLAIMS

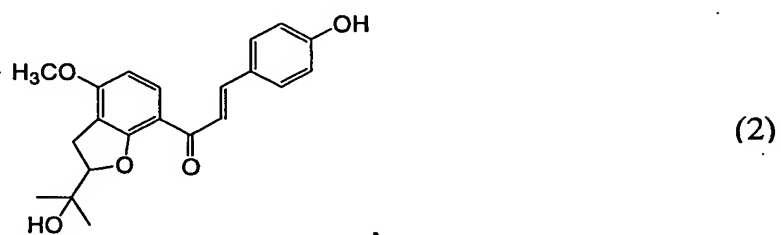
- [1] A chalcone compound represented by any one of the following formulas (1) to (9):

[Ka 1]

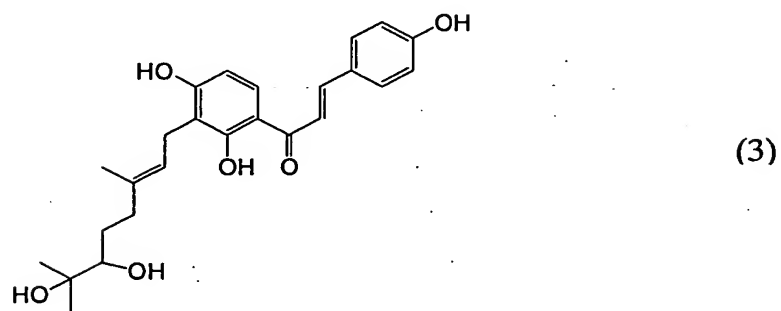


5

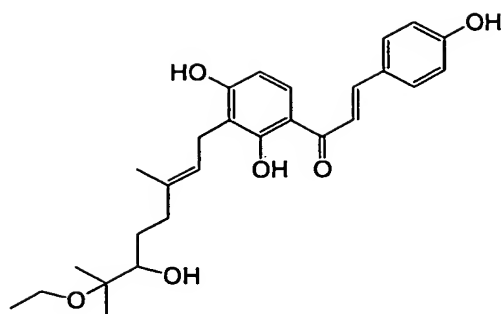
[Ka 2]



[Ka 3]

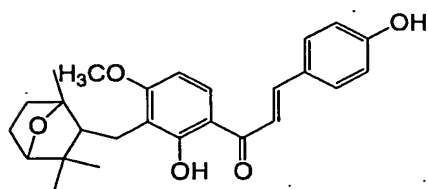


[Ka 4]



(4)

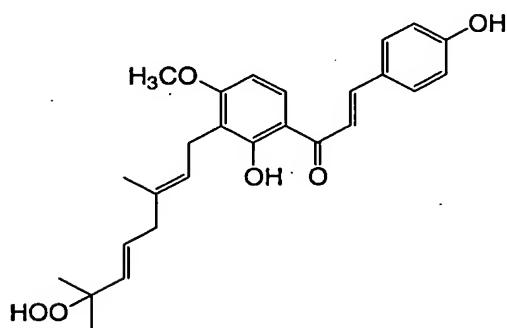
[Ka 5]



(5)

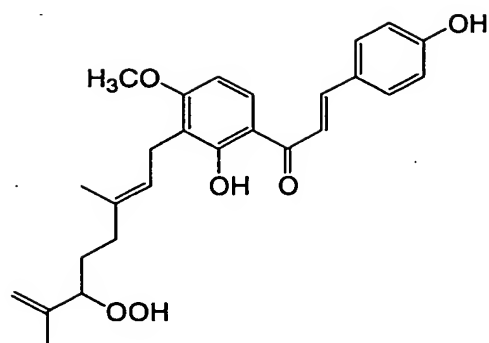
5

[Ka 6]



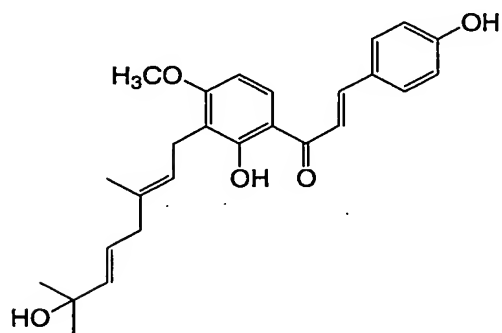
(6)

[Ka 7]



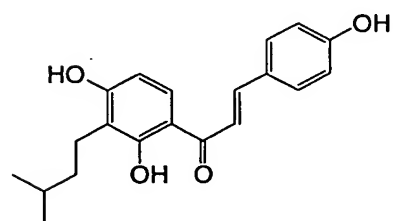
(7)

[Ka 8]



(8)

[Ka 9]



(9)

its derivative, or a salt thereof.

[2]

A therapeutic agent or prophylactic agent, characterized in that the agent comprises as an effective ingredient the compound, its derivative, or

a salt thereof, each as defined in claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent or prophylactic agent of a disease shows sensitivity to the compound.

[3] The therapeutic agent or prophylactic agent according to claim 2, wherein the disease showing sensitivity to the compound is a disease requiring suppression of nitrogen monoxide production or inhibition of aldose reductase for treatment or prevention thereof.

[4] A suppressive agent of nitrogen monoxide production or an inhibitory agent of aldose reductase, characterized in that the agent comprises as an effective ingredient the compound, its derivative, or a salt thereof, each as defined in claim 1.

[5] A food, beverage or feed, characterized in that the food, beverage or feed comprises the compound, its derivative, or a salt thereof, each as defined in claim 1.

[6] The food, beverage or feed according to claim 5, wherein the food, beverage or feed is used for treatment or prevention of a disease showing sensitivity to the compound.

[7] The food, beverage or feed according to claim 6, wherein the disease showing sensitivity to the compound is a disease requiring suppression of nitrogen monoxide production or inhibition of aldose reductase for treatment or prevention thereof.